

Heinz Ickstadt

Constructing Self – Inventing the Other: Race in 20th Century American Fiction

BIO

Heinz Ickstadt is Professor Emeritus and former Director of the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Free University, Berlin. He has served as President of the European Association of American Studies (1996-2000); President of the German Association of American Studies (1990-1993); President of ASA (American Studies Network in Europe) (1995- 1996); National Evaluator for the German Research Association (DFG) (1996-2000); Board of the Institute for Literary Research, Berlin, since 1991 (chairman from 1994-2000); and Member of the Editorial Board of *Amerikastudien - American Studies*. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of *The Americanist*. He has published widely on American literature and culture of the 19th century, on modernism as well as contemporary fiction in the U.S. His research has focused on the poetry of Hart Crane, the history of the American novel in the 20th century, on Thomas Pynchon, the American 1930s, American painting. More recently, his interests include the re-definition of aesthetics in the age of multiculturalism and the problematic of cultural appropriation. His recent publications include: "American Studies in an Age of Globalization," *American Quarterly* (2002); *Faces of Fiction: Essays on American Literature and Culture from the Jacksonian Period to Postmodernity* (2001); *Ceremonies and Spectacles: Performing American Culture* (with Teresa Alves and Teresa Cid, 2000); "Globalization and the National Paradigm," *The European English Messenger* (2000), and *Crossing Borders: Inner- and Intercultural Exchanges in a Multicultural Society* (1997).